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Utilization of taxes collected by the President of the Village Panchayat, Therkupatti.

*2395 Q.—Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the actual amount collected from the villagers by the President of the Village Panchayat at Therkupatti in Tinnevelly taluk from the date of formation of the panchayat up to this date;

(b) how much of the amount has been utilized for the benefit of the villagers and in what ways; and

(c) whether the balance of the amount has been deposited by the President of the Village Panchayat of Therkupatti in any local Post Office Savings Bank (as required by rules) or at least lodged in any bank or in the local Co-operative Society with the Registrar-General's approval and, if not, why not; and whether it is a fact that the President has been keeping with him the panchayat funds unauthorizedly and, if so, how long?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to his question No. 2393.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses (c) and (d) of question No. 1660 answered in the Council on 19th March 1926. The funds of the Panchayat are in the custody of its President.

Criminal Justice.

Alleged arrest of two bailiffs of the Madras Small Causes Court.

*2396 Q.—Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on 4th May 1926 two bailiffs of the Madras Small Causes Court were obstructed near the Body-guard Lines in Mount Road by the driver of a bullock cart which they attached in execution of a warrant and, on a fight ensuing between them, the bailiffs were arrested by police constable No. 81 and another; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take against the police constables in question?

A.—(a) On the 4th May 1926 two bailiffs of the Court of Small Causes applied to the Triplicane Police for assistance in distraining a cart. A constable (No. 1106) was accordingly sent. This constable and another constable (No. 81) who was on beat checking duty on Body-guard Road found the bailiffs, the carter and a number of persons near the Willingdon Bridge. The carter refused to go with the baliffs. The men who were with the bailiffs complained that they were assaulted by the carter. Thereupon the constables (Nos. 81 and 1106) produced the parties at D-1 Police station and, after making an entry of the facts in the Station General Diary, persuaded the

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carter to go with the bailiffs. No arrest was made, nor did the bailiffs complain to the head constable on duty at the station of any ill-treatment.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" May I ask whether the Government are aware of a certain high-handed act committed by a police constable in the city of Madura in arresting and handcuffing. . . . . ."

The hon. the President :—" Order, order. This question refers to something which took place in the city of Madras".

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" I am only referring to a high-handed act committed by a constable. . . ."

The hon. the President :—" High-handed acts not in general, but only by the police constable in the city of Madras. This question refers to the acts committed by the Madras Police, and any supplementary question must be directed against that act only ".

Irrigation.

Closing of the breaches at Koranjar.

* 2397 Q.—Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai : With reference to question No. 2267 (*a*) to (*d*), regarding the closing of the breaches in the Koranjar between the Maruthuvaneri and Elurdrakondan anicuts in Srivilliputtur taluk, Ramnad district, and answered at the meeting held on 17th July 1926, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to place on the Council table at its next meeting in August 1926 any report received on the subject from the departments concerned ?

A.—The report is still awaited from the Chief Engineer who has called for further particulars from the Superintending Engineer.

Marine.

Motor boats, etc., in use regarding development of the port of Cochin.

* 2398 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many motor or steam launches, dredgers, and boats are in use in connexion with the development of the port of Cochin ;

(*b*) when they were purchased, at what cost, what repairs and improvements have been made and at what cost, what establishment is employed for each and at what expenditure ; and

(*c*) what uses they have been put to ?